



# United States Department of the Interior

## BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

### California State Office

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EMS TRANSMISSION: 10/5/04  
Information Bulletin No. **CA-2005-001**

**To:** AFOs

**From:** State Director

**Subject:** Involving the "Applicant" in the Endangered Species Act Consultation Process

The attached Washington Office Information Bulletin (WOIB2004-148) reiterates BLM policy with respect to the involvement of applicants in the Section 7 consultation process. Pertinent excerpts from the Endangered Species Act and applicable implementing regulations are cited in this information bulletin. Please review WOIB2004-148 and ensure that any potentially affected applicants are afforded an opportunity to comment and contribute relevant data throughout the consultation process on actions that require formal consultation or conference pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act.

The guidance in WOIB2004-148 is similar to the direction previously provided to California-BLM field offices regarding the need to notify applicants of prospective Section 7 consultations and to provide them with an opportunity to submit relevant biological data. The sample applicant letter that was used for the rangewide Section 7 consultation on livestock grazing within desert tortoise critical habitat is attached for illustrative purposes, and may be used as a template for similar BLM proposals involving applicants. This sample letter will of course need to be tailored to reflect the specific circumstances of your Section 7 consultation and addressed to the appropriate pool of potentially affected applicants.

Questions regarding this information bulletin may be directed to Ed Lorentzen in the California State Office at 916-978-4646 or to the program leads identified in WOIB2004-148: Peggy Olwell, (T&E Program Lead, 202-452-7764), John Christensen (Riparian Program Lead, 202-452-7752), and Bob Bolton, (Senior Rangeland Management Specialist, 202-452-7792).

Signed by:  
James Wesley Abbott  
Associate State Director

Authenticated by:  
Richard A. Erickson  
Records Management

#### Attachments

- 1 - Washington Office Information Bulletin No. 2004-148 (4 pp.)
- 2 - Sample Applicant Letter (1 p.)

#### Distribution

CA-920 (Attn: Leroy Mohorich)

WO-230, MS 204 LS (Attn: Peggy Olwell)